

House Resolution 1812

By: Representatives Rogers of the 26th, Mills of the 25th, Collins of the 27th, and Benton of the 31st

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. Joe S. Hatfield; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
3 with the passing of Mr. Joe S. Hatfield on June 21, 2008; and

4 WHEREAS, a native of Tennessee, Mr. Hatfield attended the University of Tennessee and
5 earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture from Purdue University; and

6 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
7 States Navy, valiantly and courageously protecting democracy and his fellow Americans
8 during World War II in the Pacific theater as a ship's navigator, and earned the grade of
9 lieutenant (junior grade); and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Hatfield moved to Gainesville, Georgia, in 1951 where he served as
11 co-owner and president of the Gainesville Fryer Company and later launched Fieldale Farms
12 Corporation, a global provider of poultry products and the largest employer in Northeast
13 Georgia with nearly 5,000 employees at various production sites; and

14 WHEREAS, a poultry industry expert, Mr. Hatfield was twice named to the USDA and
15 United States trade representative's export policy advisory commissions, was the former
16 chairman of the National Broiler Council, and made American trade missions to China, Iraq,
17 Chile, and other export destinations around the globe; and

18 WHEREAS, his leadership was instrumental to numerous organizations, including the
19 Poultry Industry Division of the Community Chest, Cumberland College, First Federal
20 Savings and Loan Association, Brenau College Board of Trustees, the Chattahoochee
21 Country Club, First Presbyterian Church, the Elks Club, the Kiwanis Club, Northeast
22 Georgia Medical Center Hospital Authority, the National Republican Senatorial Committee,

23 and the Gainesville City Delegation of Citizen's Senate Delegation for Senator Paul
24 Coverdell; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Hatfield was honored with numerous awards and accolades, including the
26 Distinguished Service Award from Brenau College and Gainesville Rotary Club 1993 Man
27 of the Year; and

28 WHEREAS, Mr. Hatfield was united in love and marriage to Carrie McClain Hatfield, and
29 was blessed with the support of his wonderful children, Joe and Rosalyn Hatfield and Betty
30 and David Goldberg; and

31 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. Hatfield will long be remembered for
32 his love of family and friendship, and this loyal husband, father, grandfather, and friend will
33 be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
35 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mr. Joe S. Hatfield and
36 express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
38 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. Joe S.
39 Hatfield.